

Minutes

Asheville City Council - Public Safety Committee July 11, 2006 – 7 to 8:30 a.m. Fourth Floor Municipal Building Training Room

“Operationally Aware – Policy Focused”

Present: Council Members: Dr. Carl Mumpower, Chair; Bryan Freeborn, Jan Davis
Staff: Jeff Richardson, William Hogan, Ted Lambert, Gary Gudac, Sarah Benson, Gary Cornett, Butch Kisiah; Greg Grayson; Don Babb; Jeremy Edmonds

- **Approval of June Minutes**
 - The minutes of the June 6 meeting were approved.
- **Police Involved Shooting**
 - SBI investigation is ongoing and the police department will conduct a parallel internal investigation. Chair offered statement of support for the officers involved.
- **Staffing/Recruitment Numbers – Fire Department**
 - Presentation by the Chief - The committee was supportive of the report going to full Council. It was noted that our staffing transitions are within normal ranges compared to our peers.
- **Emergency Response Strategies in City Emergency**
 - Presentation by the Chief - The committee was supportive of an abbreviated report going to Council work session. The committee requested update on when the upgrade to three communications towers will be complete. The committee feels it is important to provide further public education on the importance of all residents maintaining a 3 day supply of food, water and medicine on hand in case of emergency situations. It was noted that initial disaster response is primarily a local responsibility. Additional public address announcements will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. The committee requested a briefing at the August meeting on emergency shelters. Committee further requested that the Chair be notified of any city emergencies – he/she will in turn notify committee members.
- **Public Parks Closing Ordinance Revisions**
 - The committee recommended this ordinance revision request to go to Council work session. The committee tentatively supports the staff recommendation and requests that examples of past issues be presented at the work session.
- **Bele Chere Report**
 - The committee was supportive of the reports given by police and fire department staff and the Bele Chere plan identified. The committee is interested in attending Bele Chere debriefings.
- **Enforcement Issues with Illegal Immigrants**

- The committee was supportive of the report given by police and legal staff. Chair offered a presentation on possible local interventions for illegal immigrant issues. Committee referred his recommendations to the Council for consideration at the next work session.
- **Public Comment**
 - There was no public comment.
- **Meeting Adjournment**
 - The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 a.m.
- **Next Meeting**
 - Tuesday, August 1, Municipal Building – 7:00 to 8:00 a.m.